5/16/97

DEAR HAROLD,

I APPRCIATE WHAT YOU ARE TELLING ME AND I AM TAKING IT SERIOUSLY. HOWEVER, THERE ARE SOME FACTS I KNOW FOR SURE.

1. I GREW UP ON A FARM AND A RIFLE WAS PART OF EVERYDAY LIFE. HUNTING AND TARGET SHOOTING WAS TAKEN FOR GRANTED. THE MAIN PLACE I DID TARGET PRACTICE WAS UNDER A COUNTRY BRIDGE THAT WAS NEXT TO OUR FARM. FROM THIS EXPERIENCE I HAVE WITNESSED MANY RICOCHET MARKS ON CONCRETE.

2. ON 11/22/63 THE FRESH MARK THAT I WITNESSED ON THE CURB WAS NOT A HOLE. IT WAS AN ABRASION THAT TOOK 1/8TH TO 1/4 INCH OF THE SURFACE OFF THE CONCRETE. IT WAS IDENTICAL WITH EVERY RICOCHET MARK I HAD WITNESSED AS A YOUTH. IT WAS FRESH AND IT WAS FROM A RIFLE BULLET.

3. IN EXAMINING THE CURB IN THE ARCHIVES I HAD AN ORIGINAL DILLARD PHOTO FOR COMPARISON. I USED 5 DISTINCT FLAWS SHOWING IN THE PHOTO TO COMPARE TO 5 DISTINCT FLAWS IN THE CURB AND GOT A PERFECT MATCH.

4. THE CURB IN THE ARCHIVES HAS SOME WHITE WAVY MARKS ON THE SIDE OF THE CURB AS SHOWN IN SHANEYFELT EXH. 34. SHANEYFELT EXH. 30, HAS THE SAME WAVY MARKS. THIS IS THE PHOTO TAKEN OF THE CURB ON 8/5/64, JUST BEFORE IT WAS REMOVED FROM THE STREET. BY THIS COMPARISON, THE BLOW UP I SENT TO YOU IS WITH-IN 1/2 INCH OF THE ORIGINAL POINT OF IMPACT.

THE BULLET THAT HIT THE CURB COULD NOT HAVE HIT AT MORE THAN A TWENTY DEGREE ANGLE IF SHOT FROM THE HIGHEST POINT AVAIALABLE IN DEALEY PLAZA. ANY RIFLE BULLET, REGARDLESS OF CALIBER WILL RICOCHET AT THIS ANGLE.

IF THE CURB WAS SCRAPPED BY THE FBI TO GET A SAMPLE, WHERE CAN I FIND EVIDENCE OF THIS PROCEEDURE?

IS THERE ANYTHING IN WRITING ABOUT THE DISTRUCTION OF THE SPECTRO PLATE? I AM STARTING TO HAVE DOUBTS THAT A SPECTRO WAS EVER DONE.

I AM NOT PLANNING TO HAVE ANY LAB WORK DONE, ONLY PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY.

I UNDERSTAND ABOUT HOOVER NOT ORIGINATING CORROSPONDENCE WITH HIS SIGNATURE ON IT. THE QUESTION I WAS MAKING, WAS ABOUT THE ABSENCE OF COPPER FROM THE HOLE IN JFK'S SHIRT AND WHY RANKIN WAS QUESTIONING IT.

I AM STILL CONCERNED ABOUT THE SOUNDS OF THE SHOTS. THE FIRST SOUND WAS FLAT, LIKE A FIRECRACKER. THE LAST TWO SOUNDS REVERBERATED LIKE A RIFLE SHOT. THERE WAS NO ECHO TO ANY OF THE SOUNDS. WITNESS AFTER WITNESS HAS MADE THE SAME INITIAL REPORT OF THIS, REGARDLESS OF WHERE THEY WERE

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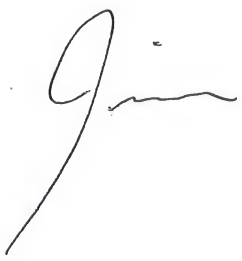
POSSITIONED IN DEALEY PLAZA. I AM SURPRISED THAT THROUGH THE YEARS NO ONE HAS ADDRESSED THIS FACT. IT COULD HAVE SOME DISTURBING IMPLICATIONS.

I AM ENCLOSING A COPY OF A LAB REPORT ON THE CURB THAT I HAVE. I AM SURE YOU HAVE IT, BUT I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE.

THE WHOLE BASIS OF MY BOOK IS THE FBI'S ATTEMPTED COVER-UP OF THE MISSED SHOT. ONE OF THE THOUGHTS I HAVE HAD FOR YEARS IS THAT AFTER HOOVER ANNOUNCED SHORTLY AFTER THE ASSASSINATION THAT ALL BULLETS HIT KENNEDY AND CONNALLY AND HIS EGO WAS SUCH THAT HE WAS NEVER WRONG AND DO ANYTHING TO PROVE IT INCLUDING A COVER-UP OF THE MISSED SHOT. AND, HIS CONTROL WAS SUCH THAT HIS AGENTS WOULD DO ANYTHING TO NOT CONTRADICT HOOVER THAT THEY WOULD CONSPIRE TO THIS COVER UP. THIS WOULD BE A SIMPLE SOLUTION. HOWEVER, THERE ARE TOO MANY OTHER CIRCUMSTANCES FOR IT TO BE THAT SIMPLE. THERE IS SOMETHING ABOUT THIS MISSED SHOT THAT WE WILL PROBABLY NEVER KNOW. THIS IS WHY I AM DIGGING SO HARD TO FIND EVERY TRACE IF INFORMATION CONCERNING THE MISSED SHOT. ON THE OTHER HAND THE FBI'S HANDLING OF THE INVESTIGATION WAS SUCH A BUMBLING MESS OF WITHHELD AND DISTORTED INFORMATION THAT NO SOLID CONCLUSION COULD BE REACHED AND WILL NEVER BE REACHED. OR A COMBINATION OF EGO, BUMBLING, AND COVER-UP TO PROTECT SOME UNKNOWN INTEREST. I DID NOT MEAN TO RAMBLE, BUT I HAVE MANY THOUGHTS TRYING TO FIND A FORMIDABLE DIRECTION.



REPRODUCED AT THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

7-2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: Lee Harvey Oswald, aka
15 - R - C

File #
Lab. #

Examination requested by: J. Lee Rankin, Pres Comm.

Examination requested: Firearms

Date received: 8/5/64

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Shaneyfelt
Heilman
Frazier

Slight lead residue on curb
concrete which could be bullet (lead) or
core of MC - previously mutilated -
non-pristine bullet - Very little
damage to concrete

Specimens submitted for examination

Curbing Section from South
Side of Main Street

C321

J. EDGAR HOOVER WRITES J. LEE RANKIN ON AUGUST 12, 1964 ABOUT THE LAB REPORT ON THE CURB.

THE ABSENCE OF COPPER PRECLUDES THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE MARK ON THE CURBING SECTION WAS MADE BY AN UNMUTILATED MILITARY-TYPE FULL METAL-JACKETED BULLET SUCH AS THE BULLET FROM GOVERNOR CONNALLY'S STRETCHER, C1, OR THE BULLET OR BULLETS REPRESENTED BY THE JACKET FRAGMENTS, C2 AND C3, FOUND IN THE PRESIDENTIAL LIMOSENE. FURTHER, THE DAMAGE TO THE CURBING WOULD HAVE BEEN MUCH MORE EXTENSIVE IF A RIFLE BULLET HAD STRUCK THE CURBING WITHOUT FIRST HAVING STRUCK SOME OTHER OBJECT. THEREFORE, THIS MARK COULD NOT HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE FIRST IMPACT OF A HIGH VELOCITY RIFLE BULLET.

Shaneff

~~J. EDGAR HOOVER~~ WRITES J. LEE RANKIN ON MARCH 18TH, 1964 TO ANSWER A QUESTION ABOUT THE LAB REPORT ON PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S SHIRT.

4. WOULD NEUTRON ACTIVATION ANALYSES SHOW IF A BULLET PASSED THROUGH THE HOLE IN THE FRONT OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY'S SHIRT NEAR THE COLLAR BUTTON AREA AND ALSO IF A BULLET PASSED THROUGH HIS TIE? NEUTRON ACTIVATION IS A SENSITIVE ANALYTICAL TECHNIQUE TO DETERMINE ELEMENTS PRESENT IN A SUBSTANCE. DURING THE COURSE OF THE SPECTOGRAPHIC EXAMINATIONS PREVIOUSLY CONDUCTED OF THE FABRIC SURROUNDING THE HOLE IN FRONT OF THE SHIRT, INCLUDING THE TIE, NO COPPER WAS FOUND IN EXCESS OF THAT PRESENT ELSEWHERE IN UNDAMAGED AREAS OF THE SHIRT AND TIE. THEREFORE, NO COPPER WAS FOUND WHICH COULD BE ATTRIBUTED TO PROJECTILE FRAGMENTS.

IT IS NOT FELT THAT THE INCREASED SENSITIVITY OF NEUTRON ACTIVATION ANALYSES WOULD CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE UNDERSTANDING OF THE ORIGIN OF THIS HOLE AND FRAYED AREA.

SIGNED ~~J. EDGAR HOOVER~~

IF MR. ~~HOOVER~~ IS CORRECT IN BOTH OF THESE STATEMENTS, THEN BOTH THE BULLET THAT HIT THE CURB AND THE FIRST SHOT THAT HIT PRESIDENT KENNEDY WERE NOT MILITARY-TYPE FULL METAL-JACKETED BULLETS SUCH AS THE BULLET FROM GOVERNOR CONNALLY'S STRETCHER. EITHER MR. HOOVER IS WRONG IN ONE OF HIS LETTERS TO MR. RANKIN OR TWO TYPES OF AMMUNITION WERE USED DURING THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT KENNEDY. THIS CAUSES BIG PROBLEMS WITH THE TRUTH AND VALIDITY OF THE WARREN REPORT.

THE MARCH 18TH, 1964 LETTER IS IN VOL XX, PAGE 2.